

RECKLESS RALPH'S DIME NOVEL ROUNDUP

A monthly magazine devoted to the collecting, preservation and literature of the old-time dime and nickel novels, libraries and popular story papers. Published by Ralph F. Cummings, Box 75, Fisherville, Mass., U. S. A. Price \$1.00 per year or ten cents a copy.

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NO. 61

NICK CARTER AND BUFFALO BILL ITEMS

By J. Edward Leithead

NICK CARTER ITEM—

In Nick Carter Weekly I notice the following differences in the title on the cover and that on title page of the novel: Cover of No. 630 reads, "The Pirate's Protege," whereas inside the story's title is "An Heiress To Millions." In lists of back numbers, No. 630 sticks to the title, "An Heiress To Millions."

The cover of No. 648 reads, "The Hand of the Yellow Door," but "The House of the Yellow Door" is the way the title page has it. In the case of both these novels, either title fits the story.

No. 507 is given, on all Nick Carter title lists, as "Bare-faced Jimmy, the Gentleman Crook," but title on the picture cover and first page is "Bare-faced Jimmy, Gentleman Burglar." No. 565 is given on title lists as "The Black Hand." On the novel cover it is "Nick Carter's Well-Laid Plot," and inside, "The Black Hand; or, Chick Carter's Well Laid Plot."

Beginning publication with March, 1933 issue, Nick Carter magazine breathed its last with June, 1936 number. It ran to forty numbers, the last being "The Devil's Handbook," all of them a notable addition to the life and exploits of the illustrious Nick Carter. Chick, Patsy, Roxy, the girl detective, and Con Connors, the Federal detective, all favorites in the older Nick Carter stories, were resurrected in this series. Too bad it didn't hold out longer. I, for one, was thoroughly interested in the new series of stories and the covers. They had the old Nick Carter tang.

BUFFALO BILL ITEM—

In a number of Buffalo Bill Stories from his pen, W. Bert Foster had Pawnee Bill sing snatches of verse about Cody, beginning thus:

"You bet I know him, pardner, he ain't no circus fraud,
He's Western born and Western bred,
If he has been late abroad;
I knew him in the days way back, beyond Missouri's flow,

When the country round was nothing but a huge Wild Western Show."

The speaker, in mentioning word, "abroad," refers of course to Buffalo Bill's four very successful years in Europe with his show. This poem is called "Bill Cody," and Wm. A. Antrim is the author. It was published by the Regan Publishing Corporation in a paper-backed book entitled, "Buffalo Bill and the Heroes of the Plains" by Clarence E. Ray. One whole chapter devoted to "poetry of the plains," contains other poems about Buffalo Bill. "Cody's Corral; or, The Scouts and the Sioux," by Buckskin Sam (Major Sam S. Hall, plainsman and Texas Ranger.) "Buffalo Chips, the Scout, to Buffalo Bill," by Captain Jack Crawford, the poet Scout. "Buffalo Bill and Yellow Hand," by Hugh A. Wetmore. Cody's sister, Helen, married a man named Wetmore. Whether the author of the poem is the same I do not know.

"Buffalo Bill's Wild West and Congress of Rough Riders of the World," as the show was known before Pawnee Bill joined it with his "Great Far East" combination, was abroad during at least part of the time that Street & Smith were located at 238 William Street, N. Y., and the following full page adv. appeared as a back cover for one of the Buffalo Bill stories, showing also a large cut of

Col. Cody heading the parade of his Congress of Rough Riders of the World through London streets, past throngs held back in line by helmeted English "bobbies" (the reproduction is from a drawing, not a photo):

THE WILD WEST IN ENGLAND

"Buffalo Bill (Co. Wm. F. Cody), whose adventures are described in the Buffalo Bill Stories — the only publication authorized by him — is now in England with his Wild West Show, and has taken London by storm. Buffalo Bill is the most popular man in London today.

Arrangements have been made by the Buffalo Bill Stories to secure reports of the doings of the great scouts in England. In addition to the regular story printed each week, letters from England containing the very latest news of the world-famous scout will be published each week.

"The Buffalo Bill Stories is the only publication authorized by Col. Cody himself. It is the magazine that publishes official accounts of the life of Buffalo Bill.

"Every American boy wants to know all about Buffalo Bill, a typical out and out American.

"The Buffalo Bill Stories has the largest circulation of any magazine of its kind in the world. Publishes unequalled stories of frontier life, and has all the latest news in regard to Buffalo Bill.

Do You Want a Picture of Col. Cody?

"Thousands of letters have been sent us by boys all over the world asking where a good picture of the great scout could be obtained. The Buffalo Bill Stories will send FREE to all its readers a FULL LENGTH PORTRAIT OF BUFFALO BILL taken from his latest and best photograph, and printed in colors upon heavy paper—4 x 7 inches.

"IF YOU WANT ONE, cut the head of Buffalo Bill from the title page of the Buffalo Bill Stories and send it with your full address and a two-cent stamp to pay postage to The Buffalo Bill Stories, 238 William Street, New York."

I suppose thousands of these pictures were distributed, but I never have seen one. Wonder if any are in existence today.

RESULT OF RECENT PRIZE CONTEST

By Wm. M. Burns

My recent contest was a bit disappointing to me, due to the fact that there were so few entries. Perhaps due to the fact that many of the questions were a bit hard to answer. Or perhaps due to the fact that only a few had the necessary data to enter the contest. Anyway there were only two contestants: Mr. George N. Beck and Mr. Lacey D. Irwin.

Bro. Beck won the first prize with a score of 65 points.

Bro. Irwin's score, while not quite so high was plenty large enough to win second prize. Here are the correct list of answers to the 12 questions:

1. Beadles published a yellowback booklet novel in 1864 called "Beadle's Dime Library of Choice Fiction. This was previous to the black and white edition of Beadles Dime Library. The library ran to only 7 issues.

2. E. Z. C. Judson (Ned Buntline) first made Buffalo Bill famous as a fiction character, in the pages of Street & Smith's New York Weekly. Most of these tales afterward being reprinted in Old Log Cabin Library.

3. After Buntline stopped writing about Buffalo Bill, Col. Prentiss Ingraham started writing about him, turning out hundreds of tales about him for Beadles Dime and Half Dime Libraries and Street & Smith's "Buffalo Bill Stories."

4. Roy St. Ledger was one of the pen-names of Oll Coomes.

5. Beadles Dime Library under Beadle as publisher, ran to No. 1009, and published weekly. With No. 1010 Iver's name appears as publisher, and published monthly. No. 1103 was the last number, and dated Dec., 1905.

6. "Sabina," the "wife" of Kit Bandy was really a man named Ichabod Flea. The pardner of Kit in his detective business. The disguise of a woman after assumed to disarm suspicion among outlaws and bad men, being trailed by the pardners. Flea, like Kit was a member of The Rocky Mountain Detective Association.

7. John Fletcher Cowan and William Gilbert Patten (Burt L. Standish), dime novel authors are still living. Also Wm. J. Benners, a writer for the old time story papers.

8. Iver's Popular Series of Fiction, Fancy and Fact were reprints of Dawleys Ten Penny Novels.

9. Buck Taylor was a real character, by turns a Texas cowboy, Texas Ranger, and frontiersman. A personal friend of Wm. F. Cody and for several seasons Chief of Cowboys with his Wild West Shows.

10. "White Beaver," "Night Hawk George" and "Billy Blue Eyes" was the names given to the three famous Powell brothers. Dr. Frank Powell was "White Beaver," George Powell was "Night Hawk George" and William Powell was "Billy Blue Eyes." "Buckskin Sam" was Major Sam S. Hall. James B. Omuhundro was known as "Texas Jack" and "The Poet Scout" was Capt. Jack Crawford.

11. Beadles Half Dime Library No. 623, titled "Buck Bumblebee, the Harlem Hummer; or The Old Captain's Moving Miracle," by Jo. Pierce, contained an invention story. A tale about a submarine boat.

12. Captain Mayne Reids' story, "Blue Dick; or The Yellow Chief's Vengeance" was published as No. 554 of Beadles' New Dime Novels. As No. 78 of Beadles Half Dime Library. And under the title of "The Yellow Chief" it was published as No. 189 of Beadles Dime Novels and as No. 102 of Beadles Pocket Library. Under the title of "The Slave's Revenge," it was published as No. 388 of Tousey's Wide Awake Library.

Partial list of all Happy Hours Brotherhood members for 1937:

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64. Charles M. Taylor, Market St. at 46th, Northwest Corner, Phila., Pa.

C. YOUNG

"Gone To His Reward"

The sad news has come that he has left our Dime-Novel Circle. He will be missed by his many correspondent friends. He was truly a man and a friend worth while. Our kindest thoughts are yours, dear pal; your memory shall always be green in our hearts.

—The Happy Hours Brotherhood.

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